



**STATEMENT OF  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)  
ADMINISTRATOR MICHAEL HUERTA  
NATIONAL SPACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY  
November 21, 2013**

President Obama's National Space Transportation Policy underscores and advances American leadership in tapping the enormous scientific, economic, cultural, and societal benefits achievable through commercial activity in space. Today's updated policy reflects input from all sectors of our nation's space community, including the White House, NASA, the Departments of Commerce, State, Defense and Transportation, and the American space industry.

This important new policy calls on government to continue development of private sector space flight capabilities. Securing public safety in commercial space transportation operations is a vital FAA mission. Just in the past year we have seen a noteworthy increase in commercial space launch and testing activity. As a result of this and the forecasted growth in this area, I have directed the FAA Air Traffic Organization and the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation to collaborate in safely integrating increased commercial space operations into the National Airspace System.

We stand ready to implement the President's policy including direction to cultivate innovation and entrepreneurship, provide Americans with greater access to available public data and lessons learned related to human space flight, and meet our responsibility to address orbital debris mitigation practices for U.S.-licensed commercial launches.

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